

Message Text

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ORIGIN SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 NSC-10 NEA-10 COME-00

NSF-04 HEW-08 DOTE-00 INT-08 HUD-02 DODE-00 CEQ-02

EPA-04 EB-11 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-15

FAA-00 SCEM-02 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 FRB-02 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 /230 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, SENV, FR

SUBJECT: CCMS: ENERGY CONSERVATION PROJECT (FRANCE)

UNCLASSIFIED

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1. SUMMARY: US CCMS ENERGY CONSERVATION TEAM MET
JULY 19 WITH OFFICIALS OF CENTRE SCIENTIQUE ET
TECHNIQUE DU BATIMENT (CSTB) INCLUDING CSTB DIRECTOR
G. BLACHERE, COMITE CONSULTATIF DE L'UTILISATION DE

L'ENERGIE, INSTITUT FRANCAIS DES COMBUSTIBLES ET DE L'ENERGIE, AND ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE. BLACHERIE OF CSTB INDICATED GREAT INTEREST IN TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN ENERGY CONSERVATION IN BUILDINGS AREA. HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE FRENCH CSTB WAS PROBABLY WORLD'S LEADING TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN THIS RESPECT COOPERATION WAS ALWAYS USEFUL. CSTB BRIEFINGS WERE TECHNICALLY OF HIGH QUALITY, AND CSTB LABORATORIES WERE WELL EQUIPPED AND MODERN AND INCLUDED ANALOG COMPUTER FOR SIMULATING HEAT FLOW IN FIVE ROOM HOUSE, EXPERIMENTAL HEAT PUMP SYSTEM, CONTROLLED TEMPERATURE AND HEAT FLOW ROOMS, AND NOVEL HEAT EXCHANGER FOR ENERGY RECOVERY FROM EXHAUST AIR.

AFTERNOON MEETING WITH ENERGY UTILIZATION CONSULTING COMMITTEE AND FRENCH INSTITUTE FOR FUELS AND ENERGY WERE NOT PARTICULARLY PRODUCTIVE IN THAT COMMITTEE AND INSTITUTE (LIKE GERMAN MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS) FELT THAT HIGH PRICES OF ENERGY IN FRANCE BY THEMSELVES ENCOURAGED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF MOST EFFICIENT ENERGY CONSERVATION TECHNIQUES IN BUILDINGS, INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES AND TRANSPORTATION. GOF INTENDS TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR ENERGY AS PRINCIPAL ENERGY SOURCE SO THAT BY YEAR 2000 80 PERCENT OF ELECTRIC POWER NEEDS WILL BE MET BY NUCLEAR POWER.

ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE OFFICIALS DESCRIBED FRENCH ELECTRIC RATE STRUCTURE FOR RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL USE. RATE STRUCTURE, WHICH INCLUDES SPECIAL OFF PEAK POWER RATES IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS AND FIVE CATEGORY INDUSTRIAL RATE SYSTEM ("TARIF VERT"), HAS HAD EFFECT SINCE 1958 OF SIGNIFICANTLY LEVELING OUT PEAK/OFF-PEAK POWER USAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING US EXPLANATION OF PURPOSE OF VISIT, BLACHERIE INDICATED GREAT INTEREST IN COOPERATION UNCLASSIFIED

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IN ENERGY CONSERVATION AREA. HE IMPLIED THAT, WHILE FRENCH TECHNOLOGY FOR REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN BUILDINGS WAS MORE ADVANCED THAN IN US, ONCE US PROGRAM GOT UNDER WAY, COOPERATION COULD ALSO PROVE BENEFICIAL TO FRANCE. BLACHERIE STATED HE LOOKED FORWARD TO RECEIVING DETAILED US PROPOSALS IN THIS RESPECT.

3. US TEAM WAS BRIEFED BY FRENCH OFFICIALS ON PRINCIPLES OF CSTB ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAM. RESULTS OF R AND D ARE BEING APPLIED TO NEW CONSTRUCTION, WITH LITTLE OR NO WORK ON MEASURES TO CONSERVE ENERGY IN EXISTING BUILDINGS. EMPHASIS IS ON REDUCING COST OF HEATING AND VENTILATING TO CONSUMER, RATHER THAN

BEING A NATIONAL EFFORT TO REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION, ALTHOUGH RESULTS ARE RELATED, OF COURSE. ONE OFFICIAL DESCRIBED OBJECTIVE OF CSTB AS TRYING TO PROVIDE "COMFORT WITH ECONOMY" FOR FRENCH HOMES, SCHOOLS, ETC.

4. CENTRAL HEATING INTRODUCED INTO FRENCH HOMES ONLY 15 YEARS AGO. OIL HEATING IS MOST COMMON, AND THERE ARE NO NATURAL GAS SYSTEMS IN OPERATION. WITH OIL SHORTAGES EXPECTED, WORK IS JUST BEGINNING ON DESIGN OF ADVANCED ELECTRICAL HEATING SYSTEMS; ALTHOUGH SOME USAGE OF ELECTRICAL HEATING HAS BEGUN.

5. CSTB SCOPE IS SIMILAR TO THAT OF CENTRE FOR BUILDING TECHNOLOGY OF NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS. NBS OFFICIAL (WALT ROSSITER), WHO WAS PRESENT AT MEETING, IS CURRENTLY SPENDING ONE YEAR AT CSTB AS PART OF CSTB-NBS EXCHANGE PROGRAM. ACTIVITIES OF CSTB IN CONSERVATION OF ENERGY AS RELATED TO HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING OF BUILDINGS INVOLVES SIX AREAS:

A. RESEARCH TO REDUCE THERMAL LOSSES THROUGH WALLS INCLUDING THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS OF INSULATING MATERIALS AND FINISHED WALLS AND REDUCTION OF HEAT LOSSES AT COLD BRIDGES.

B. RESEARCH TO REDUCE HEAT LOSSES DUE TO
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VENTILATION INCLUDING CONTROLLED VENTILATION AND USE OF HEAT EXCHANGERS.

C. RESEARCH TO IMPROVE HEATING EFFICIENCY AND RECOVER WASTE HEAT.

D. RESEARCH TO UTILIZE NEW PROCESS (E.G. HEAT PUMPS).

E. RESEARCH TO REDUCE AND EVEN CANCEL SUMMER AIR CONDITIONING COSTS INCLUDING UTILIZATION OF BUILDING INERTIA, ECONOMICAL CLIMATISATION BY HIGH VOLUME FORCED AIR FLOW, AND WATER EVAPORATION.

F. PUBLICATION OF TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS.

6. CSTB OFFICIALS NOTED THAT IMPROVED ELECTRIC HEATING FOR BUILDINGS WILL RESULT IN GREATER USE OF ELECTRICITY IN FRANCE AND THUS RESULT IN BETTER ENERGY SUPPLY BALANCE. TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY OF ELECTRIC HEATING OF BUILDINGS, AS RESULT OF CSTB RESEARCH, FRENCH USE STORAGE FURNACES AND ELECTRIC RESISTERS BURIED IN CONCRETE SLAB FLOORING. CSTB

NOTED THAT 15 CENTIMETER SLAB WITH GOOD INSULATION AND RESISTER WIRING WAS CHEAPEST WAY TO HEAT BUILDINGS IN FRANCE. CSTB ALSO EXPLAINED THAT IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS EACH ROOM IS INDIVIDUALLY THERMOSTATICALLY CONTROLLED.

7. CSTB OFFICIALS NOTED THAT GOF THOUGHT IT MORE IMPORTANT TO DEVELOP ELECTRIC UTILITY INDUSTRY THAN TO CONSERVE OIL USED IN THERMALLY GENERATED PLANTS. ELECTRICITY NOW ACCOUNTS FOR LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF THE BUILDING HEATING IN FRANCE; GOF WANTS TO RAISE THIS TO 5-10 PERCENT. FRENCH WOULD ALSO LIKE TO RAISE PRESENT AVERAGE INDOOR RESIDENTIAL TEMPERATURES FROM 20 DEGREES C TO 24 DEGREES C (WITH INDIVIDUAL ADJUSTMENTS IN DIFFERENT AREAS).

8. CSTB OFFICIALS NOTED THAT KEY TO MAKING ELECTRIC HEATING OF BUILDINGS MORE DESIRABLE IN FRANCE WAS TO UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTROL LEAKAGES OF HEAT TO OUTSIDE. IF ADEQUATE CONTROL OF CONSTRUCTION COULD BE ESTABLISHED, CSTB OFFICIALS ESTIMATE THAT THEY COULD CUT ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN THIS RESPECT

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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